GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2006
GROWTH OF VEGETABLES IN POLLUTED WATER
Khanna Shri Avinash Rai

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether vegetable growing on polluted water is affecting the health of common man; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken by the Government to check this menace?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): No such information is available with the Government.

(b): Government has constituted an Interministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture to look into the matters relating to
(i) avoidance of untreated sewage water for irrigation purposes, avoidance of over use of pesticides in cultivation and elimination of hazardous chemicals in the post-harvest treatment of agricultural commodities and
(ii) Heavy metal contamination of vegetables in Delhi. Besides, ICAR, CSIR and SAUs, many public sector organizations like Central Pollution Control Board, Jal Nigam are also working and addressing the above issues. The second phase of Ganga Action Plan has also been sanctioned for treating the polluted water.